Mandatory testing of water by soft drinks manufacturers

51. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism is being adopted to ensure mandatory testing of water used by soft drink companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The standards of carbonated water under PFA Rules, 1955 prescribe that water used in the manufacture of carbonated water shall conform to the standards of packaged drinking water as laid down under PFA Rules, 1955.

The PFA Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder are enforced by the State/UT Governments.

Promotion of Naturopathy

†52. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that not much attention has been paid towards the traditional medicine system by Government which is evident in the budgetary provision of every year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in addition to Ayurveda and Unani System of Medicines and treatment, most of the diseases can easily be cured through Homoeopathy, Acupressure and Yoga Systems; and

(c) if so, the complete details thereof alongwith Government initiatives, efforts and view point in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. The Government is paying a considerable amount of attention to the Traditional Medicine Systems of India. In order to ensure the systematic development of Indian Systems of Medicine, a separate Department dealing with Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Homoeopathy (AYUSH) was set up in 1995. The approved budgetary outlays for 2003-2004, 2004-05 and 2005-06 were Rs. 150.00 crore, Rs. 181.00 crore and Rs. 350.00 crore respectively. As can be seen, there is a significant increase in the budgetary provisions during the last three years and this is an indication of the importance attached to this area by the Government.

(b) and (c) Every system of medicine has its strengths and limitations. No single therapeutic system can possibly claim to cure all or most of the diseases affecting mankind. It has however been recognized that Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Siddha, Unani and Yoga & Naturopathy offer a wide range of preventive, promotive and curative treatment that are both cost effective and efficacious.

Spreading of AIDS through PHCs

†53. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the National Rural Health Mission, Primary Health Centres throughout the country have been held responsible for spread of AIDS and HIV virus as on date;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these Primary Health Centres are instrumental more in its spread than its treatment, due to lack of syringes, medicines, equipments, etc;

(c) if not, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, the way Government propose to make these centres effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no evidence to suggest that Primary Health Centres are instrumental in the spread of HIV/AIDS by not providing treatment due to lack of syringes, medicines and equipments etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government of India is implementing National AIDS Control Programme in all States and Union Territories in the country as a 100%

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